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LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method for delivering a parcel by a carrier to a secure receptacle

at a location of an intended recipient, comprising the steps of:

(a) dispatching the carrier with the parcel to the location of the intended recipient in

accordance with delivery instructions associated with the parcel, the location corresponding to the

address of the intended recipient on delivery instructions provided by a sender;

(b) the carrier accessing the secure receptacle at the location;

(c) the carrier placing the parcel within the accessed secure receptacle;

(d) the carrier securing the secure receptacle after placing the parcel within the secure

receptacle;

(e) the carrier making further deliveries at additional locations after having placed

the parcel within the secure receptacle; and

(f) using a scanner, automatically registering the placement of the parcel within the

secure receptacle after the securing step by communicating placement data concerning the

placement of the parcel within the secure receptacle over a communication link.

2. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 1, including the additional steps of:

reading a code on the parcel in response to the securing step; and

storing the code in a memory.

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3. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 1, the registering step including the additional steps of:

accessing a remote location by the communication link; and conveying the placement data to the remote location; wherein the registering step is in response to the securing step.

4. (Original) The method as in claim 1, wherein the secure receptacle has a locked state and an unlocked state, and wherein the accessing step includes the additional step of:

moving from the locked state to the unlocked state in response to an authorized identifier.

- 5. (Original) The method as in claim 4, wherein the authorized identifier is received from at least one of: a magnetic strip card, a key pad, and a smart card.
- 6. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 1, wherein the secure receptacle has a locked state and an unlocked state, and wherein the securing step includes the additional step of:

moving from the unlocked state to the locked state after receiving the parcel.

- 7. (Original) The method as in claim 1, including the additional step of generating a log entry in response to the accessing step.
- 8. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 1, including the additional step of generating a log entry in response to the securing step.

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- 9. (Original) The method as in claim 1, including the additional step of generating a log entry in response to the registering step.
- 10. (Original) The method as in claim 1, where in the placing step is performed at night.

Claims 11-39 (Canceled)

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